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Library Education and Development Newsletter, Volume 8, Issue 4

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University of Nebraska at Omaha

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LEAD.

Library Education and Development Newsletter

Inside This Issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| Advice from the Frontlines | 2 |
| Lindsay Stier Deerfield Primary School, Blair Community Schools | |
| Student Spotlight | 4 |
| JK Purtzer Lefler Middle School, Lincoln Public School District | |
| Announcements | 7 |
| Professional Development | 10 |

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***"Whatever the cost
of our libraries, the
price is cheap
compared to that of
an ignorant nation."***

— Walter Cronkite

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Advice from the Frontlines

Lindsay Stier

*Deerfield Primary School,
Blair Community Schools
District*



In your capacity as a professional librarian, what aspects of your job bring you the most joy?

The things that bring the most joy to me is being able to problem solve with others. I love when a teacher has an idea of what they want to do and then we are able to work together and figure out what resources will best fit that lesson. I also

enjoy the books! I love the feedback from students, their excitement when a new book comes in and the conversations we have about what they are reading.

"Teaching in general is a profession where you serve students, in the role of a school librarian you have the opportunity to serve an entire school community."

Please discuss one personal characteristic that you feel has contributed to your success as a school librarian?

One trait that helps me be successful as a school librarian is that I love to serve others. Teaching in general is a profession where you serve students, in the role of a school librarian you have the opportunity to serve an entire school community.

The A A S L Standards for the 21st Century learner ask today's school librarians to rethink and redesign their work with students to ensure mastery of the skills and dispositions necessary for personal and academic success. Please share a lesson, unit, or experience that represents the best of you as a Teacher and Information Specialist.

What represents me as a teacher is my goal
Continued on page 3

to teach students to be independent thinkers. My example of this is through the research projects I have done this year. I teach in a K-3 building and every grade level has done research. My favorite group to research with was my Kindergarteners. These students were so excited to do something that the “big” kids do. While many of the students are still unable to read a nonfiction book independently, all of my students were able to successfully research an animal of their choice. The kindergarteners had to find 3 pieces of information in their books. They were looking for what their animal looks like, where it lives and what it eats. On sticky notes we drew an eye, to represent what it looks like, a mouth, to represent what it eats, and a house to represent where it lives. The students then used the pictures and text to find their information and mark the place they found it with their sticky note. Students presented their findings using a combination of writing and pictures.

***"I walk slowly, but I
never walk
backward."
~Abraham Lincoln***

I enjoyed this lesson so much because the kindergartners were in charge of their own learning. They chose their animal and they were able to find information on their animal

independently. The success they felt when they were able to do this gave them so much confidence in their own ability to problem solve.

Please share a favorite book you have read recently.

My best book I have read recently was *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson from the current Golden Sower list. I was really impressed with this book because of the conversations it sparked with kids. The book did not have the “traditional” happy ending; this made the students very reflective in how the situation in the book could have been handled differently.

Please share a favorite website you have used for instruction or professional development.

One of my favorite websites is a Symbaloo. This is an organizational tool that I use for my library website. Students are able to go here and click on the website links that I provide. I am able to easily add/delete buttons and create different pages for different grade levels. This has been a lifesaver for me when I take students in the computer lab or use the iPads.

What is your favorite quote?

"I walk slowly, but I never walk backward."
—Abraham Lincoln

Because pursuing knowledge will always take you forward.

Student Spotlight: JK Purtzer

Lefler Middle School, Lincoln Public School District



What is your education / library/experience background?

I loved going to libraries when I was younger. My mom took me to a Author's lunch when I was in elementary school, I got to meet Wrinkle in Time author Madeline L'Engle. The library in Valentine was air conditioned and our house was not so I spent a lot of time there. My grandmother lived across the street from Keene Memorial library in Fremont, so we would go there when we visited. I graduated from UNL with a secondary education degree, so I spent time in Love library bouncing from the card catalogs to the stacks and back. I started Library Classes at UNO several years ago. I am currently in my second year as the Teacher Librarian at Lefler Middle School in Lincoln, NE.

What is on your reading list? What are your favorites? Your recommended? Your want to read lists?

My reading list is always changing, I am talking Multicultural Literature with Dr. Kuhlman this semester, so I recently finished *Aristotle and Dante discover the secrets of the Universe* by B. Saenz, *Will Grayson, Will Grayson* by J. Green and D. Levithan and *The Thing about Luck* by C. Kahdota. I'm working on *Navigating Early* by C. Vanderpool and *I Kill the Mockingbird* P. Acampora. I recommend *The Book Thief* by M. Zusak to people as a starting place, than find out what kind of books they liked before, before making other suggestions.

"I hope I can leave my students with a keen interest in improving their literacy and knowledge/curiosity to ask questions to find relevant information."

I'd recommend *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Universe* and *Eleanor and Park* by R. Rowell out of what I've read recently.

I want to read the 2015-16 Intermediate and Young Adult Golden Sowers that are sitting on my library shelf taunting me and of course *Imperial Affliction* by Peter Van Houten (TFiOS anyone?) I also want to get my eyeballs on *Martian* by A. Weir and *Crossover* by K. Alexander.

Continued on page 5

What professional journal or article have you read and would recommend? Why?

Ray, Mark "One-to-One: Let's Have One Librarian for Every 1:1 School" School Library Journal, March 2015, 24 Our District is moving to 1:1 devices, this article tells about library adaptations, shifting use of space in the library, subscribing to digital resources, role of the librarian, etc.

What do you do in your "down time"? Do you have any hobbies? How do you relax?

I ride my bicycle, golf and like to toss the Frisbee. I coach archery at Camp Winona in Maine and take my son, so he can learn outdoor skills. Once I'm in Maine, I can go to the coast on my day off and listen/watch the waves which I find very relaxing.

What deep dark secret would you like to share?

I have never listened to a complete audiobook from start to finish.

Name one of your personal or professional qualities that will make you a leader in 21st century library and information centers?

I enjoy technology and find digital information access very empowering, I think if I can build relationships to help others learn how to fulfill their informational needs and make technology work for them, I think that will help make me a leader in the library.

What advice do you have for other

students who are currently enrolled in Library Science studies?

Get to know your fellow librarians during class meeting times, start building your network, share and collaborate after that semester is over.

What do you see as key future trends and challenges for school librarians?

The field is changing quickly especially for school librarians, I think remaining adaptable and embracing change is a key trend, while retaining core literacy and inquiry skill instruction. Keeping up with shift to digital resource access while marketing the library services is a challenge.

What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?

I hope I can leave my students with a keen interest in improving their literacy and knowledge/curiosity to ask questions to find relevant information.

"You need a culture that is fundamentally not opposed to new concepts and new capabilities"

- Sayta Nadella

Library Quotes

“A trained librarian is a powerful
search engine with a heart.”
~Sarah McIntyre

“A library is a hospital for the mind.”
~Anonymous

“Cutting Libraries in a recession is
like cutting hospitals in a plague.”
~Eleanor Crumblehulme

“Without libraries what have we?
We have no past and no future.”
~Ray Bradbury

Did you know???

Dr. Melissa Cast-Brede, College
of Education Criss Library
Liaison, is available in the
Roskens Hall Student Lounge on
2nd floor, two days a week for
personal, one-on-one
librarian/student interactions. No
question is too big or too small.



- Need the perfect book recommendation?
- Having trouble with APA citation?
- Need help finding a statistic?
- Need a book or journal not available at UNO?
- Would you like to check out an iPad or Kindle?
- Not sure which journal to use?

ASK MELISSA!!!

Melissa is available in Roskens Hall
**Mondays and Tuesdays from 2:30
p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Announcements:

Scholarships, Registration, Comprehensive Exams, Graduation

Scholarships

NSLA:Nebraska School Librarians Association

NSLA awards two \$800.00 continuing education scholarships to school library Media Specialists and paraprofessionals who wish to gain additional professional training in the field on a full or part time basis. For more information, visit the NSLA website:

<http://www.neschoollibrarians.org/awards-and-scholarships.html>

NLA: Nebraska Library Association

The NLA established the Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund to provide \$1000.00 to any Nebraska student in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Library/Information Science, or a Master's Degree in a media program that meets the ALA/AASL curriculum guidelines. The \$250.00 Duane Munson Scholarship is available to help practicing librarians and paraprofessionals to gain additional library-related education and training. For submission and deadline information, visit the NLA website:

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/blog/nebraska-library-association-scholarship-opportunities-reminder/>

American Library Association

The American Library Association and its units provide more than \$300,000 annually for a Master's Degree in library and information studies from an ALA accredited program, or for a Master's Degree in school library media that meets the ALA curriculum guidelines for a National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The scholarship process is open annually from October-March. Applications and reference forms are available during that time period.

Instructions and general information remain available year round. For a complete list of available scholarships, visit the ALA website:

<http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/scholarships>

Program Completion Requirements

To register for comprehensive exams, contact Sandy Keil in the Department of Teacher Education;
Phone: 402-554-2212 or 1-800-858-8648, ext. 2212.
Email: skeil@unomaha.edu

Selective Retention forms should be submitted at the completion of 12 credit hours and approved before students can register for comprehensive exams. Please make note of the following registration deadlines.

Comprehensive Exam Deadlines

Secondary Education Literacy/Library Candidates:
The registration deadline is April 13th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Summer 2015** semester. The required review session will be held Monday, May 11th.

Reading Candidates: The registration deadline is April 27th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Summer 2015** semester. **The required review session will be held Thursday, April 30th.**

Elementary Education Capstone

Elementary Education School Library Candidates:
TED 8700 Elementary Capstone has replaced the comprehensive exam. **Fall 2015 class dates: August 28th, October 2nd, November 20th, and December 11th, from 5 to 8pm. This course is by permission only.** Please contact Dr. Kathy Danielson at kdanielson@unomaha.edu or contact Dr. Rebecca Pasco at rpasco@unomaha.edu.

UNO College of Education is:

Live with LiveText

Livertext is your:

- academic social network
- evidence of meeting program standards
- professional portfolio

All School Library and Library Science candidates are required to have a Livertext account.

School Librarians' Day 2015!!



Check out the hashtag #nsls15 for more pictures and resources from the conferences.

LIBRARIANS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Our very own **Mandy Peterson** was featured in Librarian Spotlight on NetGalley. Read some of her interview below:

Welcome Mandy Peterson, Media Specialist at Schuyler Community Schools in Schuyler, Nebraska, as our guest. Mandy is a long-time NetGalley member, a plugged-in librarian and has been generous enough to answer our questions about the role of technology in her library. Keep reading to discover how Mandy became a librarian, what a 1:1 school is, and what she's reading via NetGalley!

A great place to start is your librarian origin story – how did you become a school librarian?

In my fifth year of teaching, I realized that the library was my favorite place to go. When my students were at lunch or in specials, I frequently could be found browsing or volunteering to reshelve books. During these visits, the librarian and I developed a nice comradery and I began bouncing ideas around for what grad program I should begin. Originally, I was thinking math or science. She suggested the library program at University of Nebraska at Omaha. The head of the Library program drove 2 hours to come visit me at my house. After that meeting with Dr. Rebecca Pasco, I was not only "sold", but I was also confident that library was the right direction for me. I continued teaching while taking graduate courses to become a librarian. When the high school librarian in my district retired, I was fortunate enough to snag the position. We are currently taking the library from a traditional library to a 21st century library (as well as changing the role of librarian). I love working with the students, parents, teachers, staff, and community at Schuyler Community Schools!

How has having access to digital galleys impacted how you recommend titles for purchase but also to your students?

Through digital galleys, I know what's coming up. As I read, I may not personally love the book but I can usually think of the student who will. So I talk to them, "Hey, I'm reading this book you might like. Here's what it's about..." Then I allow students to help me decide what to purchase. If they seem interested, I'm all over it. Digital galleys have also encouraged me to go outside of my personal preference zone. I am usually decidedly dystopian and sci fi young adult lit. Through NetGalley, I've discovered paranormal/horror, contemporary, and historical fiction that I really enjoyed. These purchases have been incredibly easy to make because I've seen the quality of the material. Purchasing on blind faith with tax payer money is rough. **I am able to feel more secure when I've already previewed the material.** I've actually recommended NetGalley books to family members, other library buddies, and community organizations. Since I also post my reviews to our blog, Twitter, Amazon, Facebook, and Goodreads, strangers are using my recommendations to decide what they should read – which is a very flattering notion!

Do you have a certain strategy for finding new titles, particularly on NetGalley?

I immediately head to Young Adult/Teen books. Not only is it what is mostly in the SCHS Library, but it is also what I enjoy reading personally. Don't tell anyone but I am ~~a bit of~~ a total cover snob. The cover is what first attracts me. I am more apt to read the galley of an author I have never read before. Publisher summaries are a big deal. I find that a well-written summary can move a book from "meh, I'll read it when I get time" to "I MUST READ THIS IMMEDIATELY!"

Read the rest of the Mandy's fascinating interview at: <http://blog.netgalley.com/librarian-spotlight/>

Upcoming Conferences, Professional Development and More!



NETA
*Nebraska Educational
Technology Association*
Spring Conference

April 23-24, 2014
LaVista Embassy Suites and
Conference Center



FREE Webinars!! Go to:
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/webinars.aspx>

Good IDEAS!

Innovation, Design, Experiences, Activities, Synergy

Wendy Loewenstein, IDEAS Room Coordinator, UNO College of Education, 402-554-3653,
wloewenstein@unomaha.edu

Arm Parents with Digital Citizenship Resources

Presenting at the School Librarian's Day on the multiple literacies standards caused me to revisit some of the wonderful digital citizenship resources that are available for school librarians, classroom teachers, and parents to utilize with students of ALL ages. Digital citizenship is a topic that students can never get too much exposure to. Students' constant connection to others through social media, websites, and online gaming almost desensitizes them to the reality that there is a "real" person on the other end of their comments.



Below are some wonderful resources to use in your classroom and library and more importantly, to share with parents. Arming our parents with the knowledge and resources to use to discuss appropriate online behavior with their children is imperative. The reason being is because of this statistic that really made me aware of the importance of educating parents: **"1 out of 10 teens and tweens (ages 10-17) have been a victim of cruel behavior online, but only 5% of parents know about this online behavior"** (Mlot, 2013).

Digital Citizenship Resources

Common Sense Media: Digital literacy and citizenship classroom curriculum

<https://www.common sense media.org/educators/curriculum>

Educational Technology and Mobile Learning: Digital Citizenship Resources

<https://www.common sense media.org/educators/curriculum>

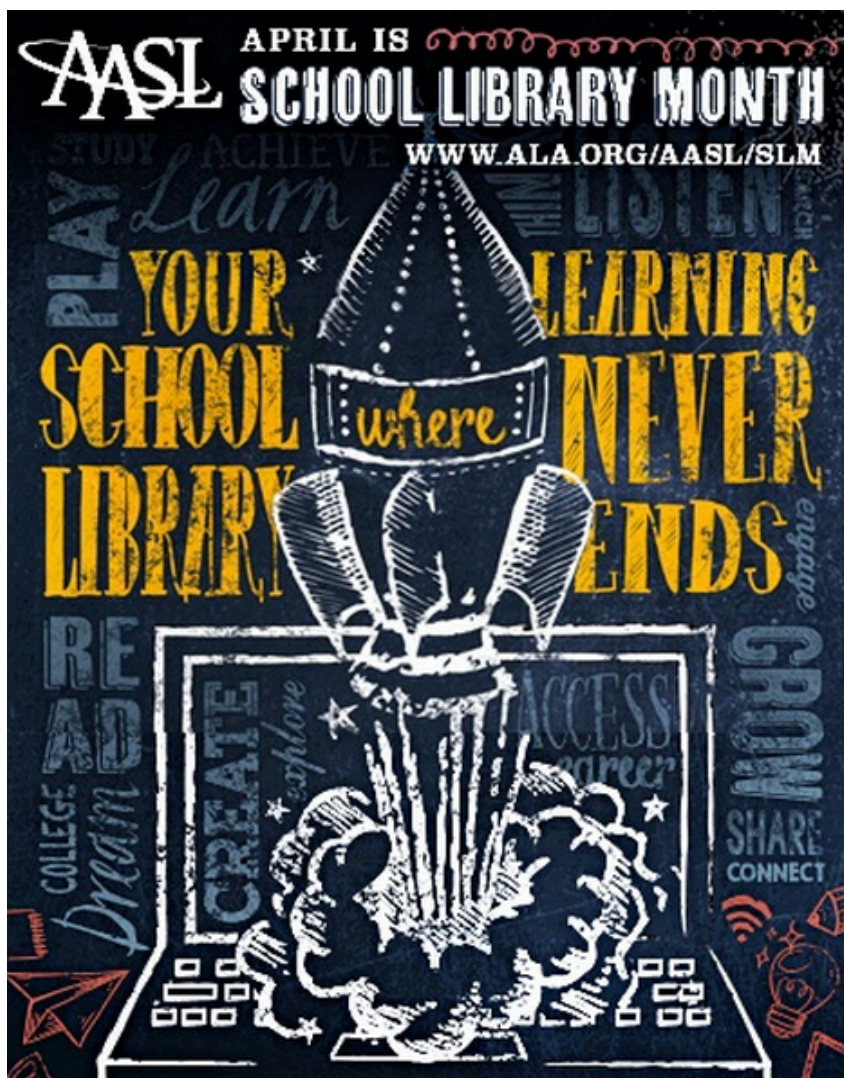
Edutopia: Digital Citizenship Resource Roundup

<https://www.common sense media.org/educators/curriculum>

Reference:

Mlot, Stephanie, (August 2013). Infographic: Cyber bullying, virtual cheating rampant among teens. *PCMag*. Retrieved from <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2422619,00.asp>

Things to Consider



School Library Month (SLM) is the American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) celebration of school librarians and their programs.

Every April school librarians are encouraged to create activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school library programs play in transforming learning.

To learn more visit:
<http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm>

For questions or suggestions regarding the UNO L.E.A.D. Newsletter, please contact:



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Graduate Assistant
ebeasley@unomaha.edu

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